

the season of happy chances—the boatswain found the cave in which Mr, Wolston and the two brothers had taken shelter. It was rather small, but large enough for Jenny and Dolly and Susan and little Bob. The men could sleep in the open air. They could tell, from the white ashes of a fire, that the cave had been occupied before.

Perhaps all the members of the two families had crossed this forest and climbed the peak on which the British flag was waving!

After supper, when Bob had fallen asleep in a corner of the cave, they talked long, notwithstanding all the fatigue of the day, and the talk turned upon the *Flag*.

During the week that they had been held prisoners, the ship must have sailed northwards. The only explanation of that could be the persistence of contrary winds, for it was manifestly to the interest of Robert Borupt and the crew to reach the far waters of the Pacific. If they had not done so it was because the weather had prevented them.

Everything now went to show that the *Flag* had been driven towards the Indian Ocean, Into the proximity of New Switzerland, Reckoning the

time that had passed, and the course
that had been
followed, since the boat had been cast
adrift, the
incontestable conclusion followed that
on that day
Harry Gould and his companions could
not have
been much more than a couple of
hundred miles